



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 09 April 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Press Herald reports that 117,000 customers in Maine were affected last week by a power outage caused by snow. (See item [1](#))
- The New York Times reports that more 911 calls come from cell phones than land lines, but 40 percent of the nation's counties cannot yet pinpoint the location of cell phone callers. (See item [29](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 07, Press Herald (ME)* — **New England storm affects 117,000 in Maine at peak.**
Residents across York County, ME and the midcoast region regained power one neighborhood at a time Friday, April 6, as crews from Central Maine Power (CMP) and other utility companies labored to repair the damage from heavy, wet snow delivered by an April storm. At the peak, about 117,000 accounts were affected, making it the largest outage since the historic ice storm of 1998. That storm affected 340,000 CMP customers, some of whom went without power for weeks. Carroll said utility crews focussed first on main lines along major corridors and then worked into smaller neighborhoods, which is why some residents remained without power after the lights went on at nearby homes. CMP crews received help from Maine Public

Service, Bangor Hydro Electric, N-Star and private contractors.

Information on peak outages in New Hampshire:

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070406/F_OSTERS01/70406035

Source: <http://pressherald.maine.com/news/state/070407power.htm>

2. *April 06, Plain Dealer (OH)* — **Nuclear disaster was close at hand.** The Davis-Besse nuclear reactor near Toledo, OH, probably was closer than anyone thought to catastrophic failure when workers found extensive corrosion of the reactor's lid in February 2002, according to a new study. A report commissioned by plant owner FirstEnergy Corp. for a pending insurance claim concludes that a reactor coolant leak ate through the 6½-inch steel lid in only a few weeks in the fall of 2001, even as the utility fought regulators' calls for a shutdown to inspect for leaks. The analysis argues that FirstEnergy was not negligent when it missed evidence of a leak during several inspections beginning as early as 1996 — because the massive corrosion was sudden, "totally unexpected, unanticipated and unforeseeable." That is contrary to earlier thinking by the utility, federal authorities and the industry, which assumed cracks had grown very slowly in the stainless alloy tubes called nozzles that carry the reactor's control rods through the reactor lid. A Nuclear Regulatory Commission safety analysis concluded that the rust hole would have blown open in two to 13 months had it not been found.

Source: <http://www.cleveland.com/news/plaindealer/index.ssf?/base/news/1175848875321660.xml&coll=2>

3. *April 05, Government Computer News* — **Auditors: DOE lost counterspies' PCs.** The Department of Energy (DOE), which repeatedly has bungled IT security in recent years, took two more hits fully or partly related to problems in recent reports from its inspector general. DOE's apparent loss of 14 desktop computers that had processed classified information surfaced in a report titled "Internal Controls Over Computer Property at the Department's Counterintelligence Directorate." The report stated that DOE's counterspies couldn't locate 20 desktop computers that were part of its documented inventory. In addition to the 14 desktops that were known to have held classified data, the report said, "The remaining six computers may have been used to process such data." The auditors observed: "Problems with the control and accountability of desktop and laptop computers have plagued the department for a number of years...As we found in several recent reviews, strict property management procedures need to be consistently applied to ensure the control of sensitive property, such as computers." In a second report, the Inspector General Office said DOE hadn't fully met its goals in adopting a common operational environment.

Report: Internal Controls Over Computer Property at the Department's Counterintelligence Directorate: <http://www.ig.energy.gov/documents/IG-0762.pdf>

Report: The Department's Efforts to Implement Common Information Technology Services at Headquarters: <http://www.ig.energy.gov/documents/IG-0763.pdf>

Source: http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/43433-1.html

4. *April 05, Honolulu Advertiser (HI)* — **Quake outage won't recur, HECO says.** If an earthquake — similar to the twin temblors that shook the Hawaiian Islands six months ago — were to occur again, O'ahu wouldn't suffer a 15-hour power outage as it did October 15, Hawaiian Electric Co. said. The problems behind the outage have been fixed, the company said. "The bottom line is that we've taken immediate steps to address the underlying effects of the October 15 earthquake," said Lynne Unemori, HECO spokesperson. "We've done the

short-term fixes. We're still looking at the long-term solutions for additional protection." That's good news for 291,000 HECO customers who were without electricity for most of the day on October 15. To make sure it doesn't happen again, HECO has implemented a number of technical fixes to its generators, such as disabling an automatic shutdown mechanism that helped trigger the outage. It also has provided additional training for staffers for earthquake scenarios and has initiated studies on how to better restore electricity to customers and quicken the restart process of the company's generators once they go offline. The long-term solutions will be more costly.

Source: <http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070405/NEWS/704050356/1001>

5. *April 05, Brantford Expositor (Canada)* — **Reward set at \$50,000 for information on vandalism to Caledonia transformer.** The Ontario, Canada government is offering a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for vandalizing the Hydro One transformer station in Caledonia last spring. On May 22, 2006, unknown persons forced their way in to the transformer's enclosed compound on Argyle Street in Caledonia. A 1994 GMC Z71 extended cab 4 x 4, blue and silver in colour, was stolen from the Hagersville Auction Centre just prior to the fires being set. The stolen pickup truck was found inside the Hydro One secure compound and was totally gutted by fire. Extensive damage was done to the transformer station building and property, which was the direct cause of a massive power outage that affected thousands of customers for several days. Damage to the transformer station was estimated at \$300,000. Collateral damage to Hydro One customers was estimated in the millions of dollars.

Source: <http://www.brantfordexpositor.ca/webapp/sitepages/content.asp?contentid=476728&catname=Local%20News&classif=News%20Live>

[[Return to top](#)]

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

6. *April 07, Arizona Daily Sun* — **Ammonia leak sickens four.** Firefighters and police in Flagstaff, AZ, found two tanks leaking anhydrous ammonia, a flammable, potentially lethal gas on Thursday, April 5. Crews were able to shut off the tanks' valves. Police received conflicting accounts about how and why the tanks began emitting the chemical, which was being used for processing blueprints, reports stated. Officers spoke with several people associated with a local business and learned that the tanks had been set outside for pick-up by a Phoenix-based chemical company. However, the canisters had been rejected because they still smelled of ammonia. The tanks may have first been set out as long as one week ago, reports stated. The case remains under investigation by the Flagstaff Fire Department.

Source: http://www.azdailysun.com/articles/2007/04/07/news/20070407_front%20page_3.txt

7. *April 06, New York Times* — **Chlorine attack in Iraq kills 20.** Twenty people were killed and 30 wounded in Ramadi Friday, April 6, when a suicide bomber detonated a truck loaded with explosives and chlorine gas near a residential complex, police said. Another 50 had trouble breathing after the attack. The truck was headed toward a police checkpoint, but when policemen opened fire, the bomber veered toward the residential complex nearby and detonated the explosives, police said. Women and children were among those killed and wounded. It was

the sixth chlorine bomb detonated in the Anbar province in the last two months and the most lethal. The Anbar province is a stronghold of the Sunni insurgency, and a haven for al Qaeda. There has been fierce fighting in the area between tribes that support al Qaeda in Mesopotamia and those who oppose it and are beginning to work more closely with the government. In the past two months, there have been assassinations and bomb attacks on the tribes opposing al Qaeda.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/06/world/middleeast/06cnd-ira.q.html?ref=world>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *April 06, National Journal* — **Army strained to near its breaking point.** Amid the camaraderie of Fort Hood's military community, the signs of war's stress are evident. Consider the acute shortage of barracks space. Because the Army is restructuring itself into smaller, 3,500–4,500 troop brigades instead of larger, 10,000–12,000 troop divisions at the same time it is pulling units back from Cold War bases in Europe and Asia, and sending units repeatedly to Iraq and Afghanistan, the shuffling of personnel is intense. Fort Hood has resorted to "hot-cotting." Units no longer have permanent designated barracks that they lock up and leave when they go abroad; as they deploy to the wars now, soldiers must put their personal items in storage. The Army and Marine Corps have also depleted their stocks of equipment pre-positioned overseas, which will hamper their ability to respond quickly to emergencies elsewhere. The equipment shuffle has left nearly 90 percent of Army National Guard units in the U.S. unready to respond to domestic emergencies. According to the Defense Department, the nation is spending 3.9 percent of gross domestic product on the military and the war on terrorism, far below the level of World War II (38 percent), the Korean War (14 percent), Vietnam (9.5 percent), and others.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36552&dcn=to daysnews

9. *April 05, Aerospace Daily & Defense Report* — **DoD continues to invest in aircraft.** Despite spending tens of billions of dollars on wartime expenses such as fuel, logistics and new or upgraded trucks, the Pentagon still is investing heavily in operating and upgrading its aircraft fleet and is likely to continue doing so well into this century, defense and military budget analysts say. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) agrees — but in a report released this month GAO says the Pentagon needs to change the way it spends its aircraft funds to keep from wasting money. Combined, aircraft costs for such items as fixed-wing expenses, defense operations and engine procurement, maintenance or development represent by far the largest outlay of spent or designated DoD money in 2006. The Pentagon is planning or executing major aircraft investments across the services through the rest of this decade and beyond, said military budget analyst James McAleese of McAleese and Associates. Loren Thompson, defense analyst for the Lexington Institute, put it this way: "We are on the cusp of some of the largest aircraft investment portfolios the Pentagon has seen in a long time." The Pentagon needs a whole new fleet of tankers. DoD also is upgrading its lift fleet and it needs to recapitalize its fighter force.

Source: http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/AIRC04057.xml&headline=DOD%20Continues%20To%20Invest%20In%20Aircraft

10. *April 05, Federal Computer Week* — **Army considering adding cyberspace to tactical domains.** The Army may follow the Air Force's lead in setting up a cyber command. "Cyber war is emerging as just as important as kinetic war, some say more important," said Vernon Bettencourt, the Army's deputy chief information officer at the recent AFCEA Belvoir chapter/Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems industry day in Bethesda, MD. The Air Force announced it would create a cyber command last November that would be located at the 8th Air Force at Barksdale Air Force Base, LA and fully operational by October 2009. "The Air Force did not just create a new command...The Air Force changed its mission statement to say that it fights in three domains: air, space and cyberspace. A development like that is worthy of our assessment," he said. To that end, a high-level Army delegation recently visited the Air Force Cyber Command. Bettencourt said, "They have amalgamated some capabilities together...They have consolidated network operations and defense on a global basis." He added that the Army already has done some of the same by co-locating parts of its Information Operations Command, its computer emergency response teams and its Network Enterprise Technology Command together at Fort Belvoir, VA.
Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article98157-04-05-07-Web>

[[Return to top](#)]

Banking and Finance Sector

11. *April 06, Associated Press* — **China tightens anti-piracy enforcement after foreign complaints.** China has extended criminal penalties for music and movie piracy to people caught with smaller amounts of DVDs or CDs, a state news agency said Friday, April 6, after foreign complaints that enforcement was too lenient. The decision by the Supreme People's Court comes amid pressure by foreign governments and the film and music industries to stamp out China's rampant product piracy industry. The court, in an order Thursday, cut in half the number of counterfeit DVDs, CDs or other audiovisual products that trigger criminal penalties of up to three years in prison, the Xinhua News Agency said. It said the court also raised fines for smaller offenders. Anyone caught with 500 pirated discs will face criminal prosecution instead of fines, down from the previous 1,000 discs, Xinhua said. It said the number of discs that triggers more severe penalties of up to seven years in prison was cut in half to 2,500. China is regarded as one of the world's leading sources of illegally copied movies, music, designer clothing and other products.
Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/tech/20070406-0438-china-productpiracy.html>
12. *April 06, Computerworld* — **Privacy advocate targets Massachusetts Secretary of State's Website.** A privacy advocate on Friday, April 6, threatened to publicly post on her Website the names of prominent individuals in Massachusetts whose Social Security numbers and other personal data she was able to pull from public records posted on the commonwealth secretary of state's Website. In addition, Betty "B.J." Ostergren said detailed instructions will be provided on her site telling others how to access the data from the site. Ostergren, a Virginia-based privacy advocate, runs a Website called The Virginia Watchdog, which she uses to draw attention to — and put pressure on — county and state government officials who post unredacted public records online. The threat to publicize the information stems from the

continued refusal by Massachusetts Secretary of State William Galvin to break links to the records. The documents, which pertain to loans taken out by individuals and businesses in Massachusetts, are considered public records and are accessible to anyone with an Internet connection. Brian McNiff, a spokesperson for Galvin's office said "These documents are necessary for commerce. These are business documents that lenders file with the state to indicate what someone has pledged as collateral for a loan."

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9015900&intsrc=hm_list

[[Return to top](#)]

Transportation and Border Security Sector

13. *April 07, Orlando Sentinel (FL)* — **OIA passenger search was false alarm.** A day after federal agents boarded a Delta Air Lines flight from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) and searched all passengers when it landed at Orlando International Airport (OIA), authorities say it was all a false alarm. A security breach at New York's JFK Thursday afternoon, April 5, forced federal agencies to order that flights from JFK to five cities, including Orlando, be screened upon arrival. But the search of 140 passengers in Orlando and similar operations at other airports did not lead to an arrest. JFK officials said a man seen running through a security checkpoint in one of the airport's terminals caused evacuations of the terminal in New York and delayed flights. Transportation Security Administration spokesperson Christopher White said flights to Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, Palm Beach, Salt Lake City, and San Diego were targeted for screening. At some point, federal agencies also considered the possibility that a suspect wanted in a New Jersey bank robbery that led to a fatal shooting of an FBI agent may have tried to board a plane at JFK. That turned out to be speculation because the man was arrested Friday morning after an intense law-enforcement manhunt in New Jersey.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/orange/orl-oia0707apr07.0.2691654.story?coll=orl-home-headlines>

14. *April 06, Associated Press* — **Flight canceled after pilot screams obscenities.** A Northwest Airlines flight from Las Vegas to Detroit was canceled, after authorities said a pilot locked himself in the plane's bathroom while screaming obscenities as passengers boarded. A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokesperson, Ian Gregor, said security guards at the Las Vegas airport agreed the pilot was "acting strange." The pilot was apparently in a heated mobile phone conversation in the cockpit, and then went into a lavatory, where he locked the door and continued the conversation as passengers boarded, Gregor said. Passengers could hear him carrying on an "animated conversation," Gregor said. At some point, the pilot came out and cursed a passenger who confronted him. The name of the captain, who was a veteran pilot, hasn't been released. The incident remains under investigation.

Source: <http://www.wxii12.com/news/11565417/detail.html>

15. *April 06, Inside Bay Area (CA)* — **Cocaine find leads to airport arrest.** Police said a Fairfield man was arrested Friday morning, April 6, at Oakland International Airport trying to smuggle two kilograms of cocaine, worth at least \$600,000, onto a Hawaii-bound flight. Police said Frank Taylor, 22, used hot wax to encase the cocaine in the shape of candles, which he then hid

in two vases in different carry-on bags. But federal Transportation Security Administration personnel operating X-ray machines at a checkpoint line became concerned about 8:30 a.m. PDT when the devices could not identify what was in the vases, police said. Police assigned to the airport were summoned, and Taylor was detained while a specially trained dog was brought to the scene to sniff out possible explosives. The dog did not react as it should have if explosives had been present, and police eventually determined the vases contained powder cocaine, authorities said. Narcotics officers estimated the cocaine's street value at a minimum of \$600,000 on the mainland and said it easily could have been worth double and even triple that in Hawaii.

Source: http://origin.insidebayarea.com/argus/localnews/ci_5616470

16. *April 05, USA TODAY* — **Runway safety system has gap.** Restrictions on a \$550 million system to prevent runway collisions are compromising safety by keeping the system from accurately tracking snowplows, fire trucks and other ground vehicles at most airports, according to government data and air-traffic controllers. The National Transportation Safety Board says the risks of a crash on the ground represent the greatest threat in aviation, and the potential for a plane to strike one of the vehicles that crowd commercial airports is a significant part of the problem. Collisions between vehicles and planes were narrowly averted 26 times from 2003 through January, according to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) data. The new system is known as Airport Surface Detection Equipment Model X. It allows controllers, who may not be able to see runways at night or in bad weather, to monitor the location of aircraft on color computer displays in the tower. However, the FAA is blocking the system's ability to track ground vehicles, the agency acknowledges. Because the FAA won't allow those vehicles to carry radio identification beacons, the system has difficulty tracking them, particularly during heavy rain. The agency is worried that the beacons — known as transponders — could interfere with broadcasts from similar beacons on planes, spokesperson Laura Brown said.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-04-05-runway-safety_N.htm

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

Agriculture Sector

17. *April 05, Daily Reflector (NC)* — **Hog farmers battling high losses from virus.** Since last summer, hog farmer Ronald Evans has seen a death rate 10 times higher than normal on his Simpson, NC, farm. The culprit: an outbreak of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS). Eight thousand High Ridge pigs died from PRRS-related illnesses between August and March, Evans said. During several weeks, the farm buried more hogs than it sold, he said, making it difficult to cover payroll and other expenses. Caused by a virus, PRRS appeared in the U.S. in the 1980s. The syndrome costs the U.S. pork industry \$560 million a year. Its local impact is harder to determine, as the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

doesn't track the disease, said State Veterinarian David Marshall. The syndrome can cause reproductive failure, respiratory disease and slow development. It also attacks the immune system, weakening a hog's resistance. Hog farmers around Pitt County have reported a spike in the disease and other related viruses recently. Evans traced his outbreak to three shipments that brought diseased or vulnerable sows to his farm. Introduction of the sick and vulnerable sped the disease's spread among hogs at High Ridge. The sows hadn't been properly tested for PRRS before being shipped to farms, Evans said.

Source: http://www.reflector.com/local/content/news/stories/2007/04/05/Hog_illness.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

18. *April 06, Associated Press* — Japan halts imports from U.S. meat plant. Japan ordered imports halted from a major U.S. meat plant Friday, April 6, after a beef shipment arrived without proper papers, the third American meatpacker that's had some exports to Japan stopped for technical violations. Four boxes of frozen beef tongue in a shipment of 250 boxes, totaling about two tons, which arrived in Kobe, central Japan, from Cargill Meat Solutions in Dodge City, KS, didn't have the required papers from the U.S. government, the agriculture ministry said in a statement. The U.S. Department of Agriculture told the ministry the shipment was destined for somewhere other than Japan, the statement said. U.S. authorities were investigating why it ended up in Japan. No material that violated Japan's safety standards for meat imports were found in the shipment, it said.

Source: <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/content.asp?contentid=119667>

19. *April 06, Los Angeles Times* — New cases of E. coli infection reported. Three new cases of E. coli bacterial infection associated with a local restaurant have been uncovered, bringing the total to 10, Orange County, CA, health officials said Thursday, April 5. As in the earlier cases, the recently identified victims all ate at the Foothill Ranch Souplantation in Lake Forest on March 23 or 24, said Howard Sutter, a spokesperson for the Orange County Health Care Agency.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-rb-riefs6apr06.1.7172572.story?coll=la-headlines-pe-california>

20. *April 06, Associated Press* — Bacteria in peanut butter linked to leak. Moisture from a leaky roof and faulty sprinkler helped salmonella bacteria grow and contaminate peanut butter at its Georgia plant last year, sickening more than 400 people nationwide, ConAgra Foods said. The company conducted a nearly two-month investigation into the contamination. The plant's roof leaked during a rainstorm, and the sprinkler system went off twice because of a faulty sprinkler, which was repaired. The moisture from those three events mixed with dormant salmonella bacteria in the plant that likely came from raw peanuts and peanut dust. The plant was cleaned thoroughly after the roof leak and sprinkler problem, but the salmonella remained and somehow came in contact with peanut butter before it was packaged. ConAgra recalled all its peanut butter in February after federal health officials linked it to cases of salmonella infection. At least 425 people in 44 states were sickened.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/04/06/ap/national/main26_55383.shtml

21. *April 05, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Dog biscuits recalled.** As a precautionary measure, Sunshine Mills, Inc., a branded and private-label pet food manufacturer based in Red Bay, AL, is voluntarily recalling a portion of its branded dog biscuits made at its Red Bay biscuit plant during part of March 2007. These brands include: Nurture Chicken & Rice, Nurture Lamb & Rice, Pet Life Large, Pet Life Extra Large, Pet Life Large Variety, Pet Life Large Peanut Butter, Lassie Lamb and Rice, and Pet Life People Pleasers Dog Treats. Private label biscuits for six of Sunshine's customers were also affected. The company is taking this voluntary action of recalling the dog biscuits after learning from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that wheat gluten supplied to Sunshine from a specific manufacturing facility in China contained melamine. Melamine is a substance not approved for use in food. The FDA made this finding as part of its ongoing investigation into the recent pet food recall. The recalled dog biscuits are marketed nationwide by many pet food retailers including the mass channel, traditional grocery, and pet specialty stores. No dog illnesses or deaths have been reported to date in connection with these dog biscuits.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/sunshinemills04_07.html

22. *April 05, Post & Courier (SC)* — **Kmart issues advisory.** Kmart officials released an advisory Wednesday, April 4, indicating packaged meat might have been tampered with at the national chain's superstore in Charleston, SC. All packaged meat was pulled from the store's shelves after workers discovered during a routine inspection that three packages of ground beef had been opened and tampered with, said Kmart spokesperson Chris Brathwaite. He said an inspection hours earlier did not find any problems. North Charleston police are investigating. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control was contacted about the reported tampering.

Source: <http://www.charleston.net/assets/webPages/departmental/news/Stories.aspx?section=localnews&tableId=137629&pubDate=4/5/2007>

23. *April 05, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Health hazard alert for pet chews.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Thursday, April 5, warned consumers not to use American Bullie A.B. Bull Pizzle Puppy Chews and Dog Chews manufactured and distributed by T.W. Enterprises, Ferndale, WA, because they have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella, which can cause serious infections in dogs and cats, and, if there is cross contamination, in people, especially children, the aged, and people with compromised immune systems. FDA collected samples of packages of three different sizes of bull pizzle (beef) dog chews manufactured by T.W. Enterprises and, after analysis, found Salmonella in one of them. FDA is including in its alert all sizes and all lots of bull pizzle chews manufactured by T. W. Enterprises because pizzles used in manufacturing the chews are processed at the same time, cut into chews of the desired sizes, and then packaged for sale. Differently sized chews are thus obtained from the same batch or lot of pizzles and manufactured under conditions that facilitate cross-contamination within batches or lots. It is impossible to differentiate.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01600.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Water Sector

Nothing to report.

Public Health Sector

24. *April 07, All Headline News* — Bangladeshi children to be vaccinated against polio.

Bangladesh will immunize over 22 million children on Sunday, April 8. That is during the second round of the 15th National Immunization Days (NIDs). During the round, polio vaccines will be given to children from infants to age 5. The vaccine will be administered nationwide through 120,000 sites located in health facilities and centers, and schools as well as mobile sites such as bus, boat and train stations. The Bangladesh government decided to immunize all children under the age of five across the country when the first case of polio was detected early last year. Before 2006, there had been no polio cases in Bangladesh for five years. There will be another two rounds of NIDs in 2007 and two rounds every year from 2008 until bordering India, which has been identified as a polio endemic country, is free from polio. Global Polio Eradication Initiative: <http://www.polioeradication.org/>
Source: <http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7006978269>

25. *April 06, Associated Press* — Bird flu kills teenagers in Indonesia and Cambodia. The bird flu virus racing through Asia killed a teenager in Indonesia and a young girl from Cambodia, both after being admitted to hospitals in serious condition, health officials said Friday, April 6. The 15-year-old girl from Indonesia's capital Jakarta died Thursday, April 5, after experiencing multi-organ failure, said Sardikin Giriputro, a doctor at the facility. The Cambodian child was initially suffering from high fever and diarrhea before being transferred from an eastern province to Phnom Penh, but she quickly got worse, the World Health Organization and health ministry officials said. The 13-year-old developed a cough and was struggling to breathe before dying Thursday. Bird flu has killed at least 170 people since it began ravaging Asian poultry stocks in 2003.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/04/06/asia/AS-GEN-Asia-Bird-Flu.php>

26. *April 06, Agence France-Presse* — Egyptian toddler has bird flu. A two-year-old Egyptian girl has been diagnosed with bird flu, the 33rd human case of the disease reported in the country, the official news agency MENA reported Friday, April 6. Fatima Faruq Abdel Gauwad, from the governorate of Minya, south of Cairo, was hospitalized on Wednesday, April 4, with a high fever, health ministry spokesman Abdel Rahman Shahin was quoted as saying.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070406/hl_afp/healthfluegypt_070406161147;_ylt=Ao4IVZC3ESk3ObwF.YLYFiJOrgF

Government Sector

27. *April 05, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-07-686R: DHS multi-agency operation centers would benefit from taking further steps to enhance collaboration and coordination (Letter). This letter addresses the conference report to H.R. 5441 and Senate Report 109-273, which directs GAO to (1) analyze the role of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center and DHS component operations centers and (2)

make recommendations regarding the operation and coordination of these centers. GAO specifically examined (1) the missions, products, functions, and customers of the multi-agency DHS operations centers that operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year (24/7/365), and (2) DHS's implementation of key practices for enhancing and sustaining collaboration at these multi-agency centers. GAO also has work underway that includes an assessment of DHS's plans for consolidating its real property holdings in the National Capital Region, including the National Operations Center and component operations centers. This letter and the accompanying enclosure transmit the information provided during those briefings to House and Senate staff.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07686r.pdf>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

28. *April 07, Associated Press* — Tsunami warning test successful on Thailand's resort island of Phuket. A tsunami warning system on Thailand's Phuket resort island was successfully tested Saturday, April 7, two years after giant waves smashed Indian Ocean coastlines and killed 8,000 people in Thailand. More tests of a tsunami warning loudspeaker in Phuket will be conducted for several days, said Arun Kerdsom, chief of Phuket's Disaster Prevention and Mitigation agency. During Saturday's test, the tower-mounted speaker emitted tapping sounds. A real tsunami warning would start with loud sirens, followed by warnings in six languages of a possible tsunami, when the waves could strike, and where people should seek safe ground. On Saturday, Kerdsom said, "We did not want to disturb or alarm tourists and residents in the area during the test, but we want them to be aware of the warning system and to make sure that it is working properly." Information on earthquakes and tsunami will be collected from worldwide warning centers including the Hawaii-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/04/07/asia/AS-GEN-Thailand-Tsunami-Warning.php>

29. *April 06, New York Times* — Struggling 911 systems cause for concern. In many areas of the country, more 911 calls come from cell phones than land lines, but 40 percent of the nation's counties cannot yet pinpoint the location of cell phone callers even though the technology to do so has been available for at least five years. The 911 system has not kept pace with the nation's rapidly changing communication habits. Even the newest systems cannot adequately handle Internet-based phone services or text messages, which emerged as the most reliable form of communication during Hurricane Katrina. Modern 911 technology can be broken down into three levels, the most basic and widespread of which tells dispatchers the phone number and address of land-line calls. At the next level is Enhanced 911 Phase I, as it is called, which provides the call-back number of wireless callers and the location of the cellular tower their signal has reached. Phase II provides a more precise location, accurate within 50 to 300 meters depending on the technology the carrier has chosen. Experts are laying the groundwork for what they call Next Generation 911, which will better handle Internet-based calls, text messages, cell phone photos and other forms of communication already in common use.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/06/us/06phone.html?_r=1&ref=technology&oref=slogin

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

30. April 06, IDG News Service — Motherboard maker's Website hacked. The Website for computer parts manufacturer ASUSTek Computer Inc. has been hacked and has been serving up attack code that exploited a critical Windows vulnerability, patched earlier last week. The exploit is hidden in an HTML element on the front page of ASUSTek's Taiwanese Website, which then attempts to download the code from another server, according to Roger Thompson of Exploit Prevention Labs Inc. As of Friday, April 6, the server that downloaded the attack code was not operational, mitigating the risk of this attack, although attackers could easily redirect their attacks to a live server, he said. The malware is of particular concern because it exploits a critical flaw, patched just this past week, in the way Windows processes .ani animated cursor files. Reliable exploit code that targets this flaw has been circulating for more than a week now, and users who visit the ASUSTek Web site before installing the MS07-017 patch could have their PCs compromised.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9015904&intsrc=hm_list

Internet Alert Dashboard

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Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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